(d) Steps being taken to raise the standard of performance include emphasis on sports in educational institutions as well as in rural areas; prioritization of disciplines; stress on the development of Juniors/Sub-Juniors; preparation of Long Term Development Plans in consultation with National Federations; involvement of the Corporate sector; development of sports infrastructure; scientific back up to sportspersons etc

Grant to Indian Studies Centre (ISC)

2384 SMT KRISHNA BOSE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) the reasons for discontinuing the grant which used to be given to the Indian Studies Centre at St Antony's College Oxford since 1983 even after an inspection in April 1996 by the Director of University Section, Ministry of Human Resource Development who was highly impressed by the work that was going on;

(b) whether there is any proposal to taken immediate steps for continuation of the grant since the centre promote academic study of India abroad and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) In 1982 with the approval of the Prime Minister financial support was provided for the setting up of a Centre for Indian Studies at St Antony's College Oxford for a period of 3 years Financial support @ £ 20 000 p a was given to the College Subsequently the financial assistance was extended for another 4 years i e 1986-87, 1989-90 with the clear understanding that it would not be possible to provide further assistance In November 1992 it was decided to provide financial assistance to the Centre for another 2-3 years by which time they would be in a position to raise their fund locally

The support to the Institute has been extended on the clear understanding that they would have to raise further resources locally and it would not be possible to provide further financial assistance to this centre The Government is not aware of the efforts made in this direction by St Antony's College

Illegal Immigrants

2385 SHRI G.M BANATWALLA Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government had taken up with the foreign Governments the question of illegal immigrants from their countries to India;

(b) if so, when and with which countries; and

(c) the details of response of each such country?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c) The question of illegal immigration has been taken up by Ministry of Home Affairs with the Government of Bangladesh only. The matter was discussed at length during the visit of our Home Secretary to Dhaka in October, 1993. The Bangladesh side had agreed to study with us the causes of cross border movements, to recommend measures for its elimination and to revive push back arrangements between Bangladesh Rifles and Border Security Force. The matter was also discussed subsequently in the meetings of the Joint Working Group held in March 1994 and April 1995

National Policy for Women

2386 SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to re-examine the National Policy for Women; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b) The Government has not yet approved the National Policy for the Empowerment of Women.

Health Schemes

2387 SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state

(a) the health schemes involving participation of charitable or voluntary organisations in operation at present in the country.

(b) the budgetary provisions and actual amount spent on these schemes during last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the method of monitoring and the implementation of these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected.

Scheme to CWC for Supply of Potable Water

2388. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has sent any scheme to Central Water Commission for supply of potable water to Mumbai, for approval;